

Message Text

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S E C R E T CAIRO 9194

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EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG IS US

SUBJECT: FAHMY ON GENEVA TALKS

REF: CAIRO 9193

1. AS INDICATED REFTTEL, FAHMY ASKED ME TO CALL THIS AFTERNOON FOR WHAT HE CALLED A POLITICAL FOLLOW-UP TO GAMASY'S EARLIER COMMENTS. FAHMY STATED THAT PRESIDENT SADAT WAS VERY DISPLEASED WHEN HEARING GAMASY'S REPORT LAST NIGHT ABOUT THE ISRAELI ATTITUDE AT THE GENEVA TALKS. THE PRESIDENT HAD INSTRUCTED FAHMY TO CONVEY TO THE SECRETARY HIS VIEW THAT "WE CANNOT CONTINUE LIKE THIS." ISRAELI TACTICS AT GENEVA HAVE DEMONSTRATED LACK OF GOOD FAITH IN WORKING OUT A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE IMPLEMENTING SCHEDULE. THEY BELIEVE ANY INTENTION TO CREATE A NEW SPIRIT OF CONFIDENCE BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES. THUS, FOR EXAMPLE, SHAFIR HAD CANDIDLY STATED TO MAHGHOUH, DURING A COFFEE BREAK, THAT ISRAEL MUST OPPOSE ANY MOVEMENT UNTIL NOVEMBER 30 WHEN THE UNDOF MANDATE IS DUE FOR RENEWAL. ASSUMING SYRIANS DO NOT RENEW UNDOF, ISRAELIS WANT TO TEST EGYPTIAN REACTION.

2. IF THIS WAS THE ISRAELI INTENTION, FAHMY NOTED, THEY SHOULD HAVE SIGNED NEW DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENTS WITH BOTH EGYPT AND SYRIA. THE QUESTION OF UNDOF RENEWAL IS TOTALLY IRRELEVANT TO THE

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT. IF

THIS TYPE OF ISRAELI TACTICS CONTINUE, EGYPT CAN ALSO BE DIFFICULT. IT, TOO, CAN CONSIDER THE AGREEMENT AS "NON-EXISTENT" UNTIL THE ISRAELIS IMPLEMENT THEIR OBLIGATIONS. FOR EXAMPLE:

A. WHEN OCTOBER 25 UNEF RENEWAL IS DUE, GOE CAN DECIDE TO RENEW FOR ONE OR TWO MONTHS ONLY, EXPLAINING ITS ACTION IN TERMS OF WANTING TO SEE WHAT THE SYRIANS WILL DO:

B. ISRAELI CARGOES WILL ALSO NOT BE ALLOWED THROUGH UNTIL THE RENEWAL OF THE UNDOF MANDATE. ANY ATTEMPT TO SEND A SHIP CARRYING SUCH CARGO THROUGH WILL MEAN THAT IT WILL BE TURNED BACK OR THE CARGO CONFISCATED. ADDRESSING HIMSELF PARTICULARLY TO RABIN'S ALLEGED CONTENTION THAT THE PROVISION IN THE AGREEMENT FOR ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM THE SOUTHERN OIL FIELDS IN TWO MONTHS APPLIES ONLY TO THE OIL FIELDS AND NOT TO THE ISRAELI MILITARY, FAHMY SAID IF THIS IS THE SPIRIT IN WHICH THE ISRAELI PROMIN IS OPERATING, THE ISRAELI CARGOES WILL DEFINITELY NOT PASS THROUGH THE CANAL UNTIL THE ISRAELI MILITARY IS ALSO OUT OF THE SOUTHERN SECTOR.

3. FAHMY NOTED THAT THE GENEVA TALKS ARE DEEPENING EGYPTIAN DISTRUST OF ISRAEL RATHER THAN BUILDING A NEW SENSE OF CONFIDENCE. PREDICTABLY, HE ATTRIBUTES THIS TO "MISCHIEVOUS ISRAELI MACHINATIONS." HE BELIEVES IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THE SECRETARY INTERCEDE IN NEXT FEW DAYS IF A TOTAL IMPASSE IS TO BE AVOIDED.

4. INTERESTINGLY ENOUGH, FAHMY HAD A GOOD WORD TO SAY ABOUT GAZIT, BUT THE VILLAIN OF THE PIECE (AS THE EGYPTIANS SEE IT) IS SHAFIR. BOTH FAHMY AND GAMASY SPOKE GLOWINGLY OF HAL SAUNDERS' CONSTRUCTIVE HELP.

5. SUGGEST DEPARTMENT REPEAT THIS MESSAGE TO TEL AVIV AND TO GENEVA FOR SAUNDERS.

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